

Message Text

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46

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEA-09 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04

SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 H-02 PRS-01

PA-01 DODE-00 IO-10 MMS-01 PM-03 /103 W

----- 090242

O 031501Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6039

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, CA

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION AGAINST ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

REF: STATE 073840, APRIL 2

1. ACCORDING TO EXTAFF, CANADA HAS NO REPEAT NO LAWS OR REGULATIONS ANALOGOUS TO THOSE OF U.S. WHICH ARE OR COULD BE AIMED AT ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL.

2. HOWEVER, ON MARCH 13, MOTION SUCESSFULLY MADE IN HOUSE OF COMMONS TO INTRODUCE BILL C-382 TO AMEND CANADIAN BILL OF RIGHTS TO MAKE CONTRACTS CONTAINING DISCRIMINATORY PROVISIONS UNENFORCEABLE. IN INTRODUCING MOTION, LIBERAL M.P. KAPLAN FROM TORONTO SAID, "SERIOUS THREATS TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY WITHIN CANADA HAVE COME FROM DIRECT MEDDLING BY THE NATIONAL POLICIES OF SOME FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND THEIR AGENTS DELIBERATELY DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE DISCRIMINATION IN CANADA. THIS AMENDMENT IS DESIGNED TO PROTECT CANADA FROM THIS DISGRACEFUL
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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT."

3. BILL C-382 PROVIDES:

BEGIN VERBATIM TEXT:

1. THE CANADIAN BILL OF RIGHTS IS AMENDED BY
ADDING THERETO, IMMEDIATELY AFTER SECTION 3,
THE FOLLOWING SECTION:

"3.1 A CONTRACT ENTERED INTO AFTER THE
COMMENCEMENT OF THIS SECTION IS NOT BINDING
ON ANY PERSON IN CANADA IF ANY PARTY TO THAT
CONTRACT, WHETHER INSIDE OR OUTSIDE CANADA,
(A) MADE IT A CONDITION OF THE CONTRACT
OR A PRE-CONDITION TO ENTERING INTO THE
CONTRACT, OR
(B) MAKES IT A CONDITION OF PERFORMING
HIS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CONTRACT
THAT SOME OTHER PARTY THERETO REFRAIN FROM
HAVING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH ANY PERSON OR
PERSONS (WHETHER WITHIN CANADA OR NOT) ON THE
BASIS OF RACE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, COLOUR,
RELIGION OR SEX." END VERBATIM TEXT.

4. IN MARCH 3 HOUSE OF COMMONS ORAL QUESTION
PERIOD, FORMER MEMBER OF TRUDEAU CABINET HERB
GRAY ASKED FOLLOWING QUESTION, "WHAT STEPS IS
THE GOVERNMENT TAKING TO ENSURE THAT FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS WILL NOT SEEK OR HANDLE ARAB
INVESTMENT FUNDS ON TERMS INVOLVING DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST ANYONE ON THE BASIS OF THEIR ETHNIC
ORIGIN OR RELIGION, SUCH DISCRIMINATORY
APPROACH BEING REPUGNANT TO CANADIANS GENERALLY?"
FINANCE MINISTER TURNER RESPONDED, "IF ANY SPECIFIC
INSTANCE WERE BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION I WOULD
DEAL WITH IT WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE
RESPONSIBILITY I HAVE UNDER THE BANK ACT."
EXTRAFFICIAL WAS NOT ABLE TO INTERPRET OR
AMPLIFY TURNER'S RESPONSE IN APRIL 2 TELEPHONE
CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY'S COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR.
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5. EXTRAFFICIAL DID, HOWEVER, STATE THAT NO
REPEAT NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO
ATTENTION OF DEPARTMENTS OF FINANCE OR INDUSTRY,
TRADE AND COMMERCE (ITC) DERIVING FROM EXISTENCE
OF ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL.

6. EMBASSY HAS ALSO ASCERTAINED SPECIFICALLY

THAT THERE IS NO REPEAT NO RELEVANT PROVISIONS
IN EXPORT AND IMPORT PERMITS ACT, ADMINISTERED
BY ITC, NOR IN EXISTING OR PENDING COMBINES/
RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED
BY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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